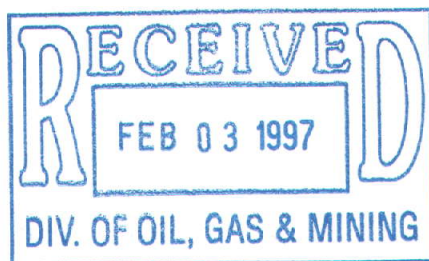


m/053/004



Via Registered Mail

Friday, January 31, 1997

Anthony A. Gallegos
Utah Department of Natural Resources
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5801

Dear Anthony:

Enclosed are the completed documents for the transfer of the Apex Mine obligations to Cominco American Inc. I hope that you find everything in order and that we will be able to be included in the February board meeting agenda. Please contact me if you need any additional information or documentation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David W. Godlewski".

David W. Godlewski
Environmental Manager

w/enclosures: Form MR-TRL
Form MR-RC
Form 5